

SENATE RESOLUTION 41

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Louise Hall Zirkle of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Louise Hall Zirkle; and

WHEREAS, Louise Zirkle was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Zirkle was born in Logan, West Virginia, on September 30, 1919, to Andrew McGuffey and Lena Hall; she had an identical twin sister, Nell, and an older sister, Charligné; and

WHEREAS, she received a bachelor's degree from Longwood College in Farmville, Virginia, and served with acumen and alacrity as an English and social studies teacher at William Byrd High School in Roanoke, Virginia. When the school needed a girls' basketball coach, she proudly volunteered, despite not knowing the sport very well; and

WHEREAS, Louise Zirkle married the love of her life, Dr. George A. Zirkle, Jr., in 1942; the couple moved to Knoxville in 1950, where Dr. Zirkle practiced pediatric medicine; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Zirkle volunteered much of her time and energy to her church and a variety of endeavors, including politics, healthcare education, and community service; and

WHEREAS, evidencing a keen interest in politics, she served as chair of the Sequoyah Precinct for twenty-five years; she also worked the election polls and often drove other volunteers to their election sites; and

WHEREAS, she estimably served as president of the Knox County Republican Club and the Knox County Women's Republican Club, and she was the first woman delegate (alternate) from Knoxville to the 1968 Republican National Convention in Miami; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her involvement in politics, Louise Zirkle fulfilled many roles in a number of health-related organizations; she served as president of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine Auxiliary, state president of the Auxiliary Tennessee Medical Association, charter member and assistant historian for the East Tennessee Baptist Hospital and East Tennessee Children's Hospital Auxiliaries, and campaign volunteer for the American Red Cross, Cancer Society, Heart Fund, Muscular Dystrophy, and the March of Dimes Telerama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Zirkle served as chair of the Dogwood Arts Festival Trail and on the boards of the YMCA, Cherokee Garden Club, Teen Board of Knoxville, Channel 20 Community TV, Chi Omega Fraternity Mothers' Club, and Girl Scouts; she also served her community as president of the Akima Club in 1956, president of the Knoxville Symphony Guild, and president of the PTA at Sequoyah Elementary School, Tyson Junior High School, and West High School; and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Republican Party recognized Louise Zirkle for her many years of dedicated service with a proclamation presented by Mayor Tim Burchett; in addition, she was named First Lady of Knoxville by Beta Sigma Phi in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Louise Zirkle was a lifelong member of Church Street United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a member of the administrative board and Murphy Builders Sunday School Class and chair of the United Methodist Woman Circle; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Zirkle was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her husband of sixty-eight years, Dr. George A. Zirkle, Jr.; her daughter, Marilyn Zirkle Mize; and her sisters, Nell Wilbourne and Charligné Chapman; and

WHEREAS, Louise Zirkle was the proud mother of Andy (Nancy) Zirkle and Joyce Zirkle (Jack) Tapscott; and

WHEREAS, fondly known as "Moo Moo," Mrs. Zirkle will be deeply missed by her four grandchildren: Dr. Ashley Tapscott, Cary Tapscott, Patrick Panella, and Lindsay Panella; and one great-grandchild, Riner Panella; and

WHEREAS, Louise Zirkle leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Louise Hall Zirkle, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Zirkle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.